

REMARKS

Claims 1-2 and 4-7 are pending and stand ready for further action on the merits.

Support for new claim 7 can be found in Figures 1 and 2. No new matter has been added by way of the above-amendment. The above-amendment has not been made for the sake of patentability and/or does not further limit the scope of the present invention.

Applicant's remarks made in the August 5, 2003 Amendment, are herein incorporated by reference in their entirety. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner considers the remarks made in the August 5, 2003 Amendment in combination with the above-amendment.

Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance. A Notice to such effect is earnestly solicited.

If the Examiner has any questions concerning this application, he is requested to contact Garth M. Dahlen, Ph.D. (#43,575) at the offices of Birch, Stewart, Kolasch & Birch, LLP.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional

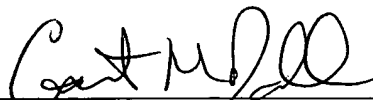
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fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under § 1.17;
particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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By

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